

Kimball House
Hancock County
Nauvoo, Illinois

HABS Ill. 244

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Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings
PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

District No. Ill.1.

ADDENDUMS
FOLLOW

Historic American Buildings Survey
Earl H. Reed, District Officer
435 North Michigan Ave. Chicago

HEBER C. KIMBALL HOUSE
Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois

Owner: Mrs. K.E. Jones.

Date of Erection: 1845. Addition in 1867. Porches later.

Present Condition: The house is in a good state of preservation, much better than many of the other old Mormon houses, built at the time Nauvoo was the Mormon center.

Number of Stories: Two stories and an attic.

Materials and Construction: Rubble stone foundation, brick walls, wood shingle roof, stone base course, sills, lintels and coping, wood gutters.

Other Existing Records: County abstracts, newspaper accounts. The Monmouth Independent, April 11, 1935.

Additional Data: The history of Nauvoo, with its many distinctive examples of architectural interest, closely parallels the history of the Mormon Church. Originating in the east, this religious band was forced to move from place to place for one reason or another, and came to Missouri in 1831. Being abolitionists, they were not popular here and were forced out, coming to Illinois in 1833. From various settlements in Clay, Caldwell and Davis Counties the groups came together in Nauvoo in 1838-39 on the beautiful bend of the Mississippi River, built a thriving city of 20,000 people.

As early as 1837 Heber C. Kimball with Orson Hyde, two of the twelve Apostles in the Church of the Latter Day Saints were in England, preaching and making many converts. Boats were chartered to carry the new members to America and Nauvoo grew in a surprising short time from a trading post with a few small shacks to a city prosperous with its Mormon Temple as the show place. A University was projected, the city chartered and the corporate limits extended. For five years a building program was very much in evidence, most of the houses being built at this time.

The Heber C. Kimball house has a stone plaque bearing the initials HCK and the date 1845, placed in the front wall between the second floor windows. The house is of brick with trim of native stone, and consists of

six rooms, with attic above. Double chimneys at the gable ends give it form and dignity, although those on the east side appear to have been added only to give symmetry to the design, for the stairway, cutting through all floors on this wall, does not allow for any fireplace construction. A later addition was built in 1867, following the design of the original house. The porch and roof look-out was probably added at this time. (Conflicting reports claim the addition was built as early as 1849.)

Building at present occupied by the family of Virgil Nicaise, who has just recently sold the property to Mrs. K.E. Jones of St. Louis, Mo. In the near future the new owner intends to make some interior alterations and move into the house, which is even now in a good state of preservation.

The house is located on the north-east corner of Munson and Partridge Streets, the latter being also known as 9th Street.

Sources: Encyclopedia Britannica
New International Encyclopedia.

By

E. J. Jansson

Approved

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Addendum to

Heber C. Kimball House
Ninth and Munson Sts.
Nauvoo
Hancock County
Illinois

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127